



# Technical Bulletin

## *Panel for Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Diagnostic testing*

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**TO:** Medical Staff and Clients

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**SUBJECT:** HCV Panels simplify compliance with Public Health recommendations

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The Hawaii Department of Health reached out to Diagnostic Laboratory Services, Inc. (DLS) as part of its hepatitis awareness efforts by highlighting recommendations supported in a recent MMWR\*.

One recommendation is to facilitate HCV quantitative RNA testing and genotyping when a diagnostic HCV serology is positive. This can be accomplished by **order code 542R**: Hepatitis C Virus Antibody with Reflex to HCV Quantitative with Reflex to HCV Genotype.

Three serum tubes are drawn during the initial patient visit. The first is for HCV serology and, if positive, the second is used for quantitative HCV PCR. The third tube will be used for genotyping. This eliminates the need for patients to return for a second blood draw. Please note, a viral load of >200 IU/mL is required to perform genotyping.

\*Cartwright EJ, Patel P, Kamili S, Wester C. Updated Operational Guidance for Implementing CDC's Recommendations on Testing for Hepatitis C Virus Infection. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2023;72:766–768. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7228a2>

Please refer any questions to your marketing representative, DLS Core Lab Manager Jantzen Lim at 808-589-5265, or DLS Client Services at 808-589-5101.

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